



FCC PILGRIM PULSE

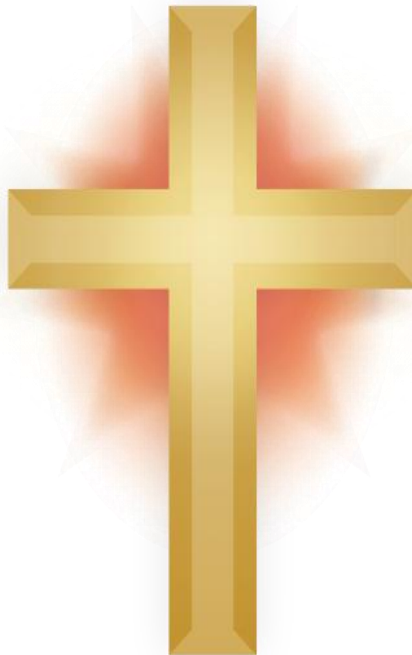
JUNE 2021

All Are Welcome!

At First Congregational Church we believe all our members are ministers, called to serve God and our neighbors with the love and grace given to us through Christ Jesus.

We are a church that desires to love God and each individual made in God's image. Whether you are grounded in your faith or still questioning your faith or somewhere in-between, we invite you to come as you are, and as you are able.

All are welcome.



For those of you who still wish to view the service from your home, please join as we stream our services online LIVE! You can view the live videos by visiting our Church website at www.firstccoq.org, or on our YouTube Channel and Facebook page; find us by searching for 'First Congregational Church of Greenville Michigan.'

If you wish to have your name or your loved one to be placed on our prayer list, please contact the church office. *Please remember you must have permission to do so. Thank you!

IN OUR PRAYERS

OUR MILITARY: Matthew Crittenden, Jordan Varney, Paul Lepley, TJ Curry, Joshua Roose, Stephanie Roose, Melissa Staffen, Rick Grimes, Joe Suchowolec, Griffin Gloden, and Kyle Durdle.

ONGOING PRAYERS FOR:

<i>Lucas Hopkins</i>	<i>Jerry Haverdink</i>	<i>Gloria McPherson</i>	<i>Trudy Petersen</i>	<i>Michele Kocher</i>
<i>James Griffith, Jr.</i>	<i>Rob Sansom</i>	<i>Kate Hanson</i>	<i>Theresa Loper</i>	<i>Mar Newkirk</i>
<i>Jay Wickerham</i>	<i>Sue Schmidt</i>	<i>Jerry Kiste</i>	<i>Holly Case</i>	

FCC FAMILY AT CARE FACILITIES:

<i>Lois Hazelwood</i>		<i>-at Hathaway Hills Assisted Living Room #31</i>
<i>Bette Houle</i>		<i>-at The Brook Assisted Living, Cedar Springs</i>
<i>Corla Morgan</i>		<i>-at SHUM RNC Room #103</i>
<i>Norma Nicholas</i>		<i>-at Green Acres Room #201</i>
<i>Jelane Hamper</i>		<i>-at Green Acres Room #206</i>
<i>Polly Boatwright</i>		<i>-at Green Acres Room#204</i>
<i>Barb Hoy</i>		<i>-at Canal View, Houghton County Medical Facility</i>
<i>Jackie Kocher</i>		<i>-Homebound</i>

MEMBERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

<i>Larry Alman</i>	<i>Friend to all FCC Members</i>
<i>Steve Rittersdorf</i>	<i>Father of Lisa Gardner</i>
<i>Jerry Garner</i>	<i>Friend to all FCC Members</i>

Are you in need of prayers? Are you in need of a visit or call?

Please contact any one of our Care Team Members with any of your needs:

Pastor Ed Milam (517) 930-3007, Claude Johnson (616) 894-5595, or

Patrice Fulton-Peacock (616) 894-7288

Prayer Notes:

BOARD MEETINGS:

Council: Monday, June 14th at 6:30pm
Deacons: Tuesday, June 8th at 6:30pm
Trustees: Monday, June 28th at 6:30pm

Trustees of the Month: Duane Putnam and Larry Snow
Deacon of the Month: Jerry McPherson

Due to current guidelines, the events in our newsletter are subject to change. Please watch our Facebook page, church emails, bulletin, and church website for updates! Thank you!

~ FCC COMMITTEE NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

FCC COUNCIL NEWS

- **A special reminder that our service time has now changed to 10:30.** This time will remain throughout the summer and be reviewed in the fall.

DEACONS NEWS

- The Deacons will have their first organizational meeting on June 8 at 6:30 PM in the conference room upstairs. Newly elected Deacons are Sarah Swanson, Joe Suchowolec, and Emily Suchowolec. Welcome new deacons! Please bring your calendars as we plan out the coverage for the year.
- After the May 2 Annual Meeting, we look forward to our next meeting, June 8 at 6:30 PM, when the board will reorganize and divide up mutual ministry activities the Deacons perform each week.
- Ed Milam, our lay pastor, is offering a New Members' Class! We will have a new member recognition on May 30th. Please contact the office if you are interested in becoming a new member of FCC!

CHURCH OFFICE NEWS

OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Thurs from 9-3. The door is locked early on Tuesday and Friday. If you need assistance, please call ahead. *Make sure to update your contact info with the church office to receive mailings on upcoming events!

FCC CELEBRATIONS

- **Happy Birthday!** To Steve Roose (6/9), Rose Riddle (6/11), Morgan M. Venema (6/15), Marian Griffith (6/17), Janet Tower (6/20), Corey Norman (6/21), Sophia Norman (6/23), and Dawson Weber (6/25).
- **Happy Anniversary!** To Steve & Diane Roose (6/11), Paul & Kris Jager (6/17), Ken & Kathy Reed (6/17), Duane & Anita Putnam (6/19), Janet & Cap Tower (6/20), Ed & Jenny Milam (6/20), Vivian & Carol Minard (6/21), Jim & Patti Ritzema (6/28), Kirk & Celeste Faber (6/29), and Ken & Coleen Venema (6/29).

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS

The Pastoral Search Committee continues to do its work to assist the Congregation in selecting our next Pastor. In addition to having met with a representative from the NACCC and a representative from a firm that specializes in intentional interim pastors. We continue to distribute a Prayer for Guidance card. This is an exciting time in the life of our Church as we prepare for our future. We ask for your continued prayers for guidance.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

- We are now done for the year! it was a fun year and even though we had met many challenges over the year, we were still able to make many memories with our little ones!
- We are offering a summer program! The program will be held Tuesday and Thursday from 9-11:30am and the cost is \$30 per week (this includes snacks and learning materials). This program is for any child 3-5 years old! If you are interested, please contact the office to sign up.
- Classes are full for the fall and we now have a waitlist.

PARISH NURSE NEWS

If you still would like a registration packet for fall classes, please contact the church office. Our Nurse is available Mondays from 8 to 4, Tuesdays from 8 to 12 and Thursdays from 8 to 4. Questions? Please call 616-894-7288.

- **COVID vaccine information:** COVID-19 vaccines are now available for everyone 12 years and older. These vaccines are free and highly effective. For more information contact Patrice or go to Mid-Michigan District Health department website (mmdhd.org). There is also information on vaccines for 12-18-year olds and information on protecting unvaccinated kids

MUTUAL MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

- from COVID with the recent rise in severe cases in children on our bulletin board.
- We are always looking for ways for our congregation to be involved in our Sunday Service! Here are some areas we are looking for volunteers to help:
- **Liturgist:** If you would like to help with our Sunday Readings, please contact the church office.
 - **Sound Techs:** We are looking for volunteers to learn our sound booth system and help with streaming our services. If interested, contact the office or Tim Schmidt.

WF NEWS

Rummage Sale: June 11th! We need your rummage items dropped off no later than Wednesday, June 9. Workers are needed on Thursday, June 10 starting at 10:00 to set up. Friday workers are needed starting at 7:30am until cleaned up mid-afternoon. Please consider working a few hours any of those times. Men are especially needed starting at 1:30 as goods left over are packed up and taken to God's Love Closet. Bring your trucks and trailers!

- **KITCHEN COORDINATORS NEEDED:** if you are willing to help monitoring events using the kitchen, inventory of supplies, and following health department guidelines, please see Chris Hubbard for more info!

MUSIC COMMITTEE NEWS

Here is our Special Music line-up for June:

- June 6th will be a performance by Larry Alman.
- June 13th will be a performance by Harrison Witt, as he also accompanies our Sunday Service.
- June 20th will be a performance by our Chancel Choir.
*We are rehearsing on June 13th with Harrison at 9:30am for the June 20th performance. Please join us if you are wanting to share your talent with others!
- June 27th will be a performance by Julie Momber.
- If you are interested in providing special music (singing, playing an instrument, playing the piano, etc.), please contact Julie Momber.

CHRISTIAN ED NEWS

- We celebrated the Praise Choir, our Sunday School students, our dedicated teaching staff, graduates, scholarships, and gave out Bibles yesterday. It was a GREAT day. Thank you, parents, for your efforts to bring your children to church and Sunday School!
- **VBS is at St. Paul Lutheran Church**, hosted by Settlement Lutheran Church on July 27, 28, 29. Mark is expecting the curriculum this week and will let us know how we can help. Please set aside those days for fun in the outdoor pavilion at their facility. Dinner is 5:30 with VBS at 6:00-8:00 PM.
- Would you like to be a Sunday School teacher? The curriculum is provided with lessons that have some flexibility and fun built into them. Materials are provided ahead of time. Openings are available in the First-Third grade room and the Fourth-Sixth grade room. You can teach once a month or more! Call Fran if you can commit to once a month at 754-7714.

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The Deacons are doing a highlight on two members from church, every week! It will be a little bio or highlight of their life and time here at FCC. Members will be contacted by phone – so listen for the call because we want to get to know YOU!

Here are the first two Members we want to highlight:

- **Bonnie Braman:** Bonnie has been a member of FCCOG for 46 years. She is widow of Hal, who was a faith-filled, friendly face at FCCOG for years. She has two sons, one daughter and three grandchildren. One of her favorite things she mentions about FCCOG is the wonderful lifelong friendships she has developed with other members.
- **The Wickerhams:** Lynn and Bonnie have been members of FCCOG for 55 years. Lynn is a retired sergeant from the Greenville police department and Bonnie is a retired preschool teacher. They have 2 sons (Brent and Brett), 2 grandsons, and 1 greatgrandson.

UPDATED COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

During the past 14 months, FCC of Greenville has done very well in keeping our congregation and staff safe from COVID-19. The safety protocols incorporated into our daily and weekly lives at the church have helped create an environment in which Covid hasn't spread, people haven't died, and many of our members feel comfortable to attend in person. Our Preschool can claim the same happy outcome. Sadly, the same cannot be said for most other churches in our area. We thank God for this blessing!



Still, Covid continues to be active in our community. There are currently several cases hospitalized at SHUM, some on ventilators, a number of local teens recently diagnosed after exposure at the prom, and enough Montcalm County adults and teens still unvaccinated to cause concern. Therefore, while we will definitely be easing up a bit on some aspects of our safety plan, we're not going to throw everything out and return to 2019 practices just yet.

- In accordance with CDC recommendations, those of us who are fully vaccinated (both shots plus a two-week waiting period afterward) are now able to come to church without a mask. Keep in mind, you are still welcome to wear your mask if you are more comfortable with it.
- In accordance with our State and CDC guidelines, anyone who is unvaccinated or not past the 2-week period after their last vaccine must be masked. Children over 2 years old who have not been vaccinated also must also be masked upon entering our church.
- Once Sunday School and Praise Choir start up again in the fall, we may reinstitute some mandatory mask-wearing for a while until our children under 12 are also eligible for the vaccine.
- Greeters at the front and back doors will continue to be stocked with thermometers, hand sanitizer, and extra masks, just in case.
- Maintaining a 6-ft. social distance within the building is still wise, and the pews will remain marked off so we're using only every other row. Reminder: Social distancing is also important in the lobby, the narthex, and the elevator.
- The Order of Worship will continue to be streamlined for a while, and Coffee Hour will not return just yet.
- Within the next couple of weeks or so, hymnals and Bibles will be returned to the pews.

Obviously, this is all uncharted territory, friends. We will continue monitoring the effects of the Coronavirus in our community & state. Tighter protocols could become necessary again for the safety of all. Thank you so much for your positive attitudes throughout!

The Safety Protocol Committee (Larry Alman, Deb Dieckman, Kirk Faber, Don & Fran Gibbs, Candy Outman, and Patrice Fulton-Peacock)

~ June 2021 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Flag Day ~ June 14		1 Preschool Bike Rodeo 5:30 GS	2 10a PURLS Preschool Bike Rodeo 4p Girl Scouts 7p Boy Scouts	3 11a GAMA Preschool Graduation @11am 7:30 AA	4 Preschool Graduation @7pm	5
	6 Communion Sunday 10a Worship Special Music ~Larry Alman PF Youth Mtg. 3p Venture Crew	7 Picnic @ Ms. Candy's Farm! 5:30 CS	8 5p HCA Mtg. 5:30 GS 6:30 Deacons	9 10a PURLS 4p Girl Scouts 7p Boy Scouts	10 9a Rummage Sale Set-up 7:30 AA	11 Church Rummage Sale from 8am to 1pm
13 10:30 Worship Special Music ~Harrison Witt	14 Happy Flag Day! 5:30 CS 6:30 Council	15 5:30 GS	16 10a PURLS 4p Girl Scouts 7p Boy Scouts	17 7:30 AA	18	19
20 Father's Day 10:30 Worship Special Music ~Chancel Choir 3p Venture Crew	21 5:30 CS	22 5:30 GS	23 10a PURLS 4p Girl Scouts 7p Boy Scouts	24 7:30 AA	25	26
27 10:30 Worship Special Music ~Julie Momber	28 5:30 CS 6:30 Trustees	29 5:30 GS	30 4p Girl Scouts 7p Boy Scouts			

Notes:

~ July 2021 ~

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1	2	3
				7:30 AA		
4 Communion 10:30 Worship Special Music – TBA 	5 <i>~office closed~</i> 6:30 Council	6	7 10a PURLS	8	9	10
				7:30 AA		
11 10:30 Worship Special Music – TBA	12	13 5p HCA 6:30 Deacons	14 10a PURLS	15	16	17
				7:30 AA		
18 10:30 Worship Special Music – TBA	19	20	21 10a PURLS	22	23	24
				7:30 AA		
25 10:30 Worship Special Music – TBA	26 7p Trustees	27	28 10a PURLS	29	30	31
				7:30 AA		

Notes: